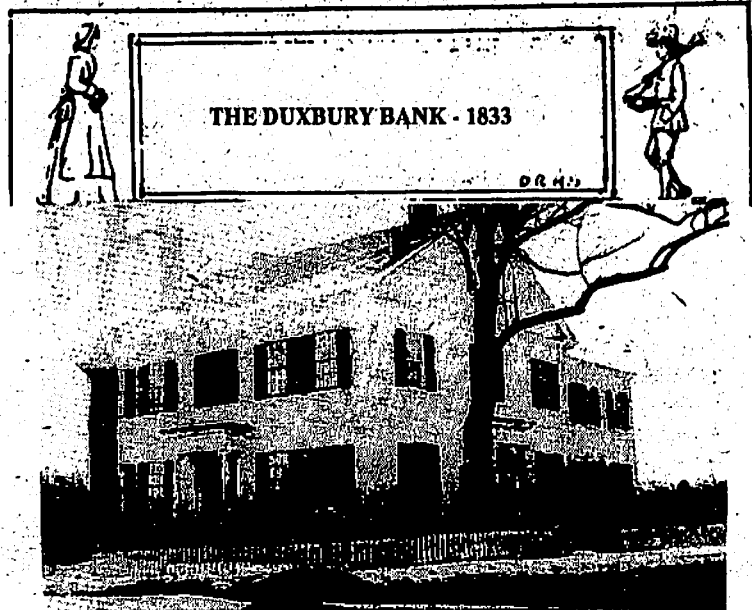


HISTORICAL HOUSES - NAMED, A-L

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On July 4, 1833, Samuel Frazar sold a piece of land to the president, directors, and corporation of the Duxbury Bank, a fine corner lot Frazar described as "formed by the union of the road leading by my dwelling house with the road leading from the Blue Fish River Bridge to Powder Point." Samuel Frazar's house was on St. George St. and the other road is now Washington St.

Here on this centrally located lot, near the shipyards, it was primarily intended for, rose the new bank, a 4 square building that looked much like the homes the bank officers lived in. However, unlike the homes, it was close to a busy, dusty cross roads and it was on such low ground that the cellar was often awash.

Ezra Weston II, the first bank president, walked through the front door to his office, as did most of the ship builders, merchants, and business men of Duxbury's shipping era, something to think on when one views the stately building now. The bank was short lived and by 1842, it closed its doors.

Next to occupy the building was the French Atlantic Cable, and because that occupancy lasted over 80 years, the place has been better known as the Cable Office. After some years the top 2 floors were made into an apartment for a superintendent's family, but until 1952 the business of the cable company was carried on on the first floor.

The earliest pictures of the bank show a plain white exterior with large trees close to the walls, a street light, and later, a white picket fence to mark off the small yard, conforming to the practice of most Washington St. homes. Then some Philistine painted the building yellow with red trim and blinds. Colonial yellow was a common color but this was not Colonial yellow at all, and the glaring red-yellow combination was contrary to the general good taste in town. Fortunately along came a cable superintendent who painted it white again, showing the fine proportions and handsome corner columns to good advantage.

After well over 100 years as a business building, the Duxbury Bank went into private ownership and became a dwelling. No structural changes have altered the exterior and the building looks so much like its contemporaries along the road leading from Blue Fish River Bridge to Powder Point that it could easily lose its business identity, if it were not for the importance of the 2 business uses. It will long be called the Cable Office but historically it is the Duxbury Bank, built in 1833, now a dwelling owned by Mrs. Daniel Brown.

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